## CLAIM 9. A grappling hook having:

an elongated shank defining an axis and having first and second ends thereon;

rope receiving means at the first end thereof;

- 5 a grasping end having:
  - a second first end thereof affixed to
    the second end of the shank; and
  - a second free end spaced from the shank:
- the shank and the second free end defining a hook throat between them; and
  - a flexible line attached to the rope receiving means, CONSISTING ESSENTIALLY OF:

the hook having thereon a balance point between the

first end of the shank and the second free end

of the grasping end, wherein

the weight of the shank between the first end thereof and the balance point is equal to

20 the weight of the grasping end between the balance point and the second free end; whereby,

after the hook has been thrown onto a surface to which an obstruction is affixed,

and the shank of the hook is drawn toward and up onto the obstruction, gravity:

(continued)

## (new CLAIM 9, continued):

lifts the grasping end from the surface
when the balance point of the hook
has passed the obstruction; and
rotates the grasping end downward about
the axis, so that the grasping end
engages the obstruction.

CLAIM 10. The grappling hook of CLAIM 9, wherein said hook is manufactured of metal.

CLAIM 11. The grappling hook of CLAIM 9, wherein said hook is manufactured of a molded plastic.

CLAIM 12. The grappling hook of CLAIM 9, wherein said hook is manufactured of a thermoplastic shrunk over the flexible line preformed into the desired shape.